

**EPA Region 10 Notice of Request for Proposals
for
Tribal Water Quality Cooperative Agreements (FY2005)
Applicants for the EPA Region 10 area only:
(Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)**

Document Type:	Initial Announcement
Funding Opportunity Number:	EPA-GRANTS- (see www.grants.gov)
Posted Date:	March 22, 2005
Original Due Date for Applications:	Initial Proposals due by May 06, 2005
Current Due Date for Applications:	Initial Proposals due by May 06, 2005
Archive Date:	June 06, 2005
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Category of Funding Activity:	Environment
Expected Number of Awards:	1-3
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$126,000.00
Award Floor:	None
CFDA Number:	60.463 -- Water Quality Cooperative Agreements
Cost Sharing or Match Requirement:	No
Eligible Applicants:	Tribal Governments, Intertribal consortia, non-profits, others

Agency Name:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 WOO, Attn: Alan Moomaw, 300 Desmond Dr. S.E. Suite 102, Lacey, WA 98503

Funding Opportunity Title:

Tribal Water Quality Cooperative Agreements for AK, ID, OR, WA (CWA Section104(b)(3))

Description :

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to enable tribal governments to better protect watersheds they have concerns about from point source pollution impacts typically associated with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (NPDES permits). Federally-recognized Tribal governments, Intertribal Consortia, non-profit organizations (which support tribal programs) and others may provide project proposals. The financial assistance provided is for short-term project grants that result in unique or innovative approaches for prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution from point source impacts. This includes, but is not limited to, project areas dealing with Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's), Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO), Sanitary Sewer Overflows, Storm Water Discharge, Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's), Pretreatment and Sludge or Septage disposal (Biosolids) program activities. Developing Tribal Water Quality Standards (including related water quality assessments and/or water quality monitoring projects) and watershed planning activities related to the above are also eligible. Grants awarded under this announcement may involve geospatial information.

Important Dates:

March 22, 2005	EPA posts the Request for Initial Proposals.
May 06, 2005	Initial Proposals must be received by EPA.
September 31, 2005	Final awards processed.

Contents of Full Announcement:

- I. Funding Opportunity Description
- II. Award Information
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I. Funding Opportunity Description:

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to enable tribal governments to better protect watersheds they have concerns about from point source pollution impacts typically associated with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (NPDES permits). Federally-recognized Tribal governments, Intertribal Consortia, non-profit organizations (which support tribal programs) and others may provide project proposals. The financial assistance provided is for short-term project grants that result in unique or innovative approaches for prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution from point source impacts. This includes, but is not limited to, project areas dealing with Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's), Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO), Sanitary Sewer Overflows, Storm Water Discharge, Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's), Pretreatment and Sludge or Septage disposal (Biosolids) program activities. Developing Tribal Water Quality Standards (including related water quality assessments and/or water quality monitoring projects) and watershed planning activities related to the above are also eligible. Grants awarded under this announcement may involve geospatial information.

The environmental outcomes expected from these grants are either an increase in the number of tribal governments actively engaged with EPA in water quality management, or an increase in the experience and capabilities of tribes already actively engaged with EPA on water quality. The outputs expected are successful completion of projects conducted or supervised by tribes that either help define tribal water quality goals and standards or help tribes take concrete steps towards resolving specific, tribally-selected, water quality issues.

This program falls under Goal 2 (Clean and Safe Water), Objective 2 (Protect water Quality), Sub-objective 1 (Improve water quality on a watershed basis), of the strategy that EPA is using to meet the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act. Special emphasis will be on removing barriers to pending NPDES permitting activities.

Priorities: Projects serving areas of interest to Region 10 tribal governments will receive a high priority under this Request for Proposals.

II. Award Information:

Region 10 anticipates awarding \$126,000 with perhaps 1 to 3 projects being selected for funding. Projects should be completed within 12 to 24 months. "Treatment in a Manner Similar to a State" (TAS) is not required for this grant program.

Projects should be completed in a relatively short time frame and should produce specific outputs (deliverables). Proposals that primarily support on-going activities by a Tribal Program will not be considered.

III. Eligibility Information:

1. Eligible Applicants: Tribal Governments, Intertribal consortia, non-profits, others
2. Cost Sharing or Matching: None Required. However, applicants may provide a non-federal match to indicate the organizations commitment to completing the project, or demonstrating the leveraging being done with partnerships on the project.

IV. Application and Submission Information:

1. Application Package: At this time, only the Project Proposal statement of work (see #2 below) is being requested. Complete applications that include the federal forms for financial assistance agreements are not necessary – however, applicants are not precluded from submitting a package that also includes the federal forms as a part of the initial submission. Successful applicant(s) will be contacted to provide the additional application materials for financial assistance agreements.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission: Please submit a 2 to 3 page project description that includes:

- Name of Project
- Point of Contact (individual and organization name, address, phone, fax, email)
- Funding Amount Requested
- Cost-Sharing or Match Being Provided (not required, see III above)
- Project Description
- Anticipated Accomplishments , Interim Milestones, Final Product(s) (Project Outputs)
- Discussion of Anticipated Environmental Results (both Environmental Outcomes and Environmental Outputs as listed in Section I)
- Budget (broken down into categorical cost estimates - see financial assistance application forms for examples of budget object class categories)
- Past grants with EPA (received within the last 5 years)
- Demonstration of Level of Tribal Government/Tribal Community Support for Project

(primarily for non-tribal affiliated applicants proposing projects on behalf of tribes – this can be included as an attachment area to the 2-3 page project proposal)

3. Submission Dates and Times: The estimated schedule of activities for submission, review of proposals and notification of selections follows below:

Submission: Electronic transmittal is preferred to facilitate the review process, but hard copies via fax, mail are acceptable. Please send three copies if mailing. The contact information is provided at the end of this announcement.

Due Date: On or before May 06, 2005 (postmark date for mailing). Project proposals received after the due date may be considered at EPA's discretion.

Review and Decision Timetable: EPA Region 10 anticipates making selections and notifying applicants by email (or letter, if email is not provided). We anticipate requesting complete funding packages submitted by the end of May, if possible, to facilitate awarding the project grants before September 30, 2005.

4. Funding Restrictions: Projects should be completed in a relatively short time frame and should produce specific outputs (deliverables). Proposals that primarily support on-going activities by a Tribal Program will not be considered.

5. Other Submission Requirements: Electronic transmittal is preferred to facilitate the review process, but hard copies via fax, mail are acceptable. Please send three copies if mailing. The contact information is provided at the end of this announcement.

V. Application Review Information:

1. Criteria:

Projects selected for funding will meet eligibility of CFDA: 60.463, and Sections I, II, and III above. Projects that do not meet the basic program eligibility regulations will not be considered for evaluation.

EPA Region 10 will award Water Quality Cooperative Agreements on a competitive basis and evaluate those project proposals that meet program eligibility on the following criteria:

- a) Sufficient project information (See IV (2) above)
- b) Completeness of Plan for Project Deliverables (Project Outputs), and Plan for Environmental Outcomes (Environmental Outcomes/Outputs)
- c) Unique, Innovative, and/or Transferable Model or mechanism resulting from project that has application for other tribal communities
- d) Partnerships, Leveraging of Resources, Community Involvement/Community Support

- e) Addressing Severe Environmental Problem
- f) Likelihood of success/quality of proposal
 - Timeliness of proposal (project proposals received after the due date may be considered at EPA's discretion)
 - Past Performance on EPA grants based on EPA records (if any have been awarded)

2. Review and Selection Process:

Each of the listed criteria above (a thru f) will be equally evaluated on a 0 to 5 points range. Timeliness and Past Performance criteria will be evaluated on a 0 to -5 points range for a late proposal and/or for an applicant with a adverse grant history with EPA. The proposals will be evaluated by selected staff from the Tribal and Water Quality programs. The Director of the Office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs will select the proposals for funding. All applicants will be notified. Successful applicants will be asked to provide a full application. EPA Region 10 hopes to have the applications in on/before the end of May 2005 in order to have the awards made on or before September 30, 2005.

VI. Award Administration Information:

1. Award Notices: All applicants will be notified. Successful applicants will be provided information about completing the financial assistance application.
2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements: Will be specified in the financial assistance agreement.
3. Reporting: Frequency will be specified in the financial assistance agreement.
4. Disputes: Assistance agreement competition-related disputes will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures published in 70 FR (Federal Register) 3629, 3630 (January 26, 2005) which can be found by one of the following methods:
 - through the EPA Region 10 web site: go to <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/> ; click on "Index" ; click on "D" ; , look for ""dispute resolution procedures, assistance agreement competition"
 - at: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-1371.htm>
 - or by contacting Paula vanHaagen at 206/553-6977 or 800/424-4EPA ext. 6977 (AK, ID, OR, WA only) or at vanhaagen.paula@epa.gov.

VII. Agency Contact(s):

For information, Alan Moomaw (360) 753-8071, Tribal Coordinator for CWA 104(b)(3)
(or Dick Hetherington at (206) 553-1941, CWA 104(b)(3) Coordinator)

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